
ARENA REPORT

Volume I, Issue 19

PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING FEDERATION

Sunday, June 11, 1989
Eddie Graham Sports Complex
Orlando, FL

Welcome to the Sunshine State of Florida and the first "Arena Report" to emanate from this wonderful state. The trip down was fine weather wise until hitting the Florida border where it was cloudy most of the way into Orlando. It seems like I've been out of touch with wrestling for a long time when in essence it's only been a week. As you can see with the title of this issue, the PWF is alive and ... it's alive anyway. In this issue besides that report I'll have a review on Sat. Nights Main Event that was shown a couple of weeks ago. The WWF ran a show tonight in Tampa but I opted for something different as I'd like a vacation from Titan until 6/24 when a report will come from the Orlando Arena. In that edition of "A.R." I'll also have a report on the 6/18 PWF show as well as a review on "Clash of the Champions- Guts and Glory".

This issue will be a bit short as with only five bouts tonight there won't be alot to say on this show. In future reports that the PWF will be the main focal point, I will have two reports as I plan on attending weekly. (Hey, for \$6 bucks a ticket and a 10 minute ride, what's the big deal.) I also hope to have Titan taping info in this issue as they taped in the midwest 6/6 and 6/7.

"Arena Report" is published twice a month and costs 50¢ an issue, A number should appear at the top left of this page informing you how many issues you have left. All renewals, match results, letters and the like may be sent to Ron Lemieux, 370 Lake Tahoe CT. #102, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701. Well, lets go to the complex. I can't wait to see what this place looks like and how it compares to the Dallas Sportatorium.

Opening Match

Jomo Kenya beat Lou Perez in 11:45 with a leg drop off the top rope. Kenya is former jobber Jimmy Backlund. This guy is the equivalent of Barry Horowitz. Same type of style, but better. He does a psycho act real well. Perez is so-so. **

2nd Match

Bubble Gum Kid beat "Hollywood" Rick Diamond in 10:49 with a powerslam. Bubble Gum is Brett Sawyer. Gained a few pounds and rather clown with the regulars. Too bad, I use to like the guy. Match was all comedy and clowning. This guy Diamond works a crowd good. -** (negatory Big Ben) I know this promotion is hurting but they could at least give Sawyer some fresh gum to hand out. I couldn't even chew the stuff.

Grudge Match

Steve Keirn beat Al Perez in 20:48. First 15 minutes was the guys working on each other's leg. Humperdink was with Perez. Keirn put Al in a sleeper and Hump got on the apron. The Gator hit

Sir Oliver and went back to Perez. Oliver went to the back and came out with The Steelemen. The big guy grabbed Keirn and when The Latin Heart Throb went to hit Steve, Steelemen nailed Perez. Hold it. Perez was holding Keirn. Steve then nailed Steele and pinned Perez. After the match, Al was blaming Hump when Steelemen attacked and Perez came back and chased them off. Perez will now be a face. Match stunk but aftermath was good. * $\frac{1}{2}$

Florida Tag Team Championship

The Nasty Boys won the Florida Tag straps beating Southern Force in 10:49 ending their one week reign. Bart and Dirty White Boy had won the belts here in Orlando from Mike Graham & Dustin Rhodes last week. Match was fair. Brian Knobbs did a good job in getting the snot beat out of him outside the ring. As a matter of fact, he almost took out my knee as Black Bart threw him into the metal barrier which smashed my knee. Thanks guys. End saw the Force go for a back body drop on Knobbs but he sunset flipped Bart and Saggs clotheslined Anthony down enabling Knobbs to score the pin * $\frac{1}{2}$

Florida Heavyweight Championship

Dustin Rhodes retained the title beating Steelemen by disqualification at 11:28. Super brawl. Boy, was I shocked. Dustin got posted and boy did he bleed. Guess he wants to emulate Daddy in every respect. They took it outside and Hump nailed the ref. They threw Rhodes back in and Oliver was holding Dustin's legs while Steelemen splashed him. Al Perez ran out and cornered Hump and did a number on him causing him to bleed.. ugh, bleed. Great action. *** $\frac{1}{2}$

Orlando Notes

The crowd was 142 give or take 10. Hey, I know, I counted them myself. It wasn't too hard. This promotion could do much better at the gates. But they do a worse job of promoting than the George Scott NWA. No ads in the paper, no plugging of next weeks card, not even a mention that there will be one. Probably because they don't know if they'll be around... The arena is alot like the Sportatorium. Except it's shaped like a huge airplane hanger. There is also another exception; there are no fans in the building. Take that both ways. It's very hot and I can see why the workrate would not be that great. Hey, they have an excuse... Word here is that Mike Graham is loaded and doesn't really give a s _ _ . Since they own this building and I believe the Tampa Sportatorium they probably break even. Nah, doubt it.... One of the security guys came over and told the two guys next to me that they should have went to Tampa as Dusty was wrestling DiBiase. Might be true, I didn't know the line-up. But then he said that Windham & Rotunda were there and wrestling Tully & Arn. Dusty was their manager. Yeah, sure buddy! I just kept my mouth shut like a nice "smart" fan.

Saturday Night's Main Event Review

1) Hacksaw Duggan beat Rick Rude via count out as Rude took an awesome bump over the top rope from a Duggan clothesline. If Rick keeps this up, he may make it in the top three for most improved. Carrying Warrior and Duggan? * $\frac{1}{4}$ 2) Randy Savage beat Jim Neidhart with the flying elbow. Match started out slow but picked up. The "Anvil" did a couple of nice moves including a drop kick on the floor. Sherri looked horrendous. Looks wise that is. ** $\frac{1}{4}$ 3) Hulk Hogan beat The Big Boss Man in a steel cage. They did the suplex from the top of the cage and that was my

high point of the match. The rest I've seen before. Zeus guarded the door at the beginning and gave Hulk a couple of awful looking smashes. He does look intimidating but that's where it stops. * 4) Brain Busters beat Demolition by DQ when Demo tossed the referee. I hate one sided tags and this was basically one of them. * $\frac{1}{2}$ 5) Jimmy Snuka splashed Boris Zhukov. Match was a dud but * for the splash.

I didn't want to spend too much time on this as it was aired a few weeks ago. I guess everyone enjoyed this show alot more than I did. Maybe I'm getting too critical.

Ramblings

It looks like the war for arenas in the northeast is on between the NWA and WWF. Vince doesn't return to Boston until 9/9 so Turner may have an August show as well as his Bash on 7/8. They don't return to Providence until 8/27 although their Bash is at Brown University... The dark matches for the Worcester tapings 7/18 include Hogan-Honkey, Savage-Beefcake, Valentine-Snuka, Demo-Busters. Title change?... The Sting-Terry Funk brawl on NWA Pro was priceless but you need blood in an angle like that. Come on Ted, loosen up a little... Barry Windham will be made into a lady killer and be called the Widow Maker. At first I thought my ears deceived me and my source said Black Widow, oh no, another animal. A good push he'll get I heard... Lex Luger beat Michael Hayes on World Wide to regain the US Title. By the reaction Lex gets now, I think it's a mistake to turn him...until I saw TBS Sat. They were running a tape of the interview between Steamboat and Funk when something happened and here we had Luger on the TBS set with Jim Ross. I thought they had a glitch with the tape. (Not impossible with these guys.) But it was an angle with Luger demanding that they stop running the tape because he had something to say. He complained about not being on the Clash show especially since he has the #2 belt in the promotion. He said he'll be there anyway which makes us suspect he'll be involved in the finish. Did a good heel interview even though he asked the fans for support... I love Hayes as a color man. Nothing is left unsaid. He mentioned the UWF when referring to Terry Gordy having injured Steve Williams before. He also asked Ross if he remembered the UWF and Ross said of course. Hayes said that's where he made him (Ross) a star. Another classic was saying that Jacko Victory (now a New Zealand Militia) has more personalities than Sally Field. (She played Sybil, remember?)... John Studd walked out without notice last Monday. They did an angle at the tapings last week with Hillbilly knocking out Andre with his horseshoe so the feud drags on... Honkey suffered a legit injury at the tapings but should be back in a week. Savage and Zeus formally challenged Hogan and Beefer also... NWA drew a whopping 600 at the Silverdome tonight. Must have looked real good... WWF drew 5,000 plus at Reunion Arena in Dallas for Hogan-Savage but they only went three minutes because your highness didn't want to work in front of a small crowd... It looks like tonights Orlando card could be the first and last I attend. Word is they will only run 2 shows a week and their TV is history. Bart & Anthony are going to Memphis, Perez to World Class full time and the others are looking also. They will only use the guys who have other jobs in Tampa for their shows. But this group seems to have nine lives. I hope they stay together in some form... Eric Embry beat Tojo Yammamoto in Dallas and he now owns World Class. Stupid angle of the year or what?.... Lots of rumors concerning the demise of the NWA but not yet. It's said Turner is committed to three years but the pressure is certainly on them now to get things going or changes will be made.

Correspondent Reports

Pershing Auditorium

Lincoln, NE

May 20, 1989

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) Warlord pinned Koko Ware with a powerslam in 8:10 of a dud. 2) Bret Hart and Curt Hennig went to a 16 minute draw. Some real good wrestling in this, the best bout of the night. 3) Brutus Beefcake beat Greg Valentine with the double pin finish at 12:28. 4) Jimmy Snuka beat Ted DiBiase in 11:09. Ted attacked Snuka before the bell and as usual sold his butt off. The guy should be a millionaire by now as much as he sells. 5) The Rockers beat The Rougeaus in 15:00. Mostly comedy. 6) Paul Roma downed Boris Zhukov in 6 minutes of a real yawner. 7) Rick Rude retained his Inter Continental Title by losing via count out to Ultimate Warrior. Ultimate over big in Nebraska as well. Zeuss also made an appearance with Bro Love. (?) Att: 4,471

Boston Garden

Boston, MA

June 3, 1989

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna

1) Tim Horner defeated Barry Horowitz with a cradle in 11:56. Great opener as you had the two best jobbers in Titan. 2) Warlord beat Jim Neidhart in 4:36. Mr. Fuji distracted the "Anvil" and Warlord gave a knee to the back to set up pin. 3) "The Bum of The Woods" Dusty Rhodes made his return to Boston by beating Ted DiBiase in 9:54. Once again, Ted's repetoire was on sale. Dusty took Ted's money and dispersed it around ringside. Place popped "BIG TIME" for the Nightmare. Can the WWF handle three huge egos: Hogan, Dusty, and McMahon? I think not. 4) Paul Roma upended Boris Zhukov in 11:13 with a powerslam. 5) Randy Savage beat Hulk Hogan via count out as Sherri got involved. Time was 12:56. After the bout, Hogan gave Sherri an atomic drop. Yeah, nice thing to teach kids. Beat up a woman. 6) Curt Hennig and Bret Hart went to a draw in a great match. 7) Dino Bravo beat Hercules in 8:42 when he foiled Herc's sunset flip attempt by sitting on his chest. 8) Demolition beat The Twin Towers in 10:56 with Ron Garvin as guest ref. Demo threw the big guys together and then Smash covered Axe. Sorry, Axe covered Boss Man. After, the Towers had words. Who would be the face? Who cares? Att: 11,500

Kemper Arena

Kansas City, MO

June 4, 1989

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) Dynamic Dudes beat The Raider and Jack Victory in 6 minutes. Seemed in a hurry to finish. 2) Steve Williams beat a jobber in quick fashion. 3) Dick Murdoch beat Wild Bill Irwin in 11 minutes. Started as comedy but turned into a brawl. Dick and a fan got into it heavy verbally. 4) Butch Reed beat Ranger Ross in 5:08 of a real dud. 5) Mike Rotunda beat Scott Steiner in a battle of the suplexes in 12:28. 6) Ricky Steamboat beat The Great Muta in 18:04 of a super match. Fans cheered both wrestlers. Lots of action. End came as Gary Hart pulled down the top rope sending Steamer over and onto the floor for the DQ. Fans gave match standing ovation. 7) Samoan Swat Team and The Road Warriors went to a double DQ. They spent one minute in the ring and the rest of the time brawling all over the place. Lots of excitement. 8) Lex Luger beat Michael Hayes in a Bad Street, Lights out match in 11:08. All in all, an enjoyable show. Att: 1,580

Providence Civic Center

Providence, RI

June 9, 1989

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna (sense a pattern here?)

1) Jimmy Snuka beat Boris Zhukov with the splash in 3:23. Boris a sub for Honkey whom Jimmy Hart said had the flu. 2) Rougeaus over The Rockers in 14:56. Jacques reversed a small package that Jannetty had on Raymond. Shawn Michaels is wearing a neck brace to push the injury. 3) Brutus Beefcake pinned Greg Valentine in 12:03 when Greg went to get the scissor from Jimmy Hart and Beefer rolled him up. 4) Hillbilly Jim over Andre the Giant via DQ at 6:20. You read that right. Studd a no show. Embarrassing that Andre isn't allowed to pin this goof. They did the same angle with Haku and Duggan getting involved. Almost like Studd was there. 5) Hacksaw Jim Dummy beat Haku in 10:27 with the spear. 6) Lanny Poffo pinned Jim Powers with a small package in 8:47. 7) Hart Foundation beat The Powers of Pain as all four were on the outside and Bret jumped in to beat the count. Hart did a splash on the floor. Decent match. Att: 5,000

Letter To The Editor

Worried About Santana

Lately I've been worried about the safety of one of the wrestlers. Ever since my favorite, Muhammed Ali took a few too many to the head, I'm a great deal more conscious about athletes who are risking their health.

The case in point is poor Tito Santana. Almost every night of the week he wrestles Rick Martel. Tito comes out with that road weary glazed look in his eyes and EVERY NIGHT he gets jumped. After the 37th or 38th time you would think he'd have the sense to at least take a peek backwards JUST IN CASE Rick is sneaking up behind him, but he never does. It's a sad thing to see; I think the man's losing it.

What makes it even worse is that after recovering somewhat from the attack, he gathers up the courage to battle Martel later in the card but loses in the same way and in the same amount of time. Something is very wrong with good old Tito.

Ron, please use your connections and get that man the help he needs. We don't want him to end up like George "The Animal" Steele.

Evan Ginzburg
Bayside, NY

RL- I'll contact Bill Apter and see if I can get Dr. Onabla on the case.

Final Word

Thanks to Bruce, Louie, and Evan for their material they sent me. Also thanks to Dave who always gives me some tidbits to throw in my "Ramblings" column. Next issue will be from Orlando Arena 6/24 with this line-up: Rude-Warrior, Rockers-Rougeaus, Valentine-Beefcake, Rooster-Brawler, Robin-Martin, Bravo-Hercules. Also a Clash review, the 6/18 PWF card (if there is one), and hopefully a report on the WWF-NWA Battle of Connecticut 6/22 and 6/23. The NWA has announced Bashes for Orlando 7/28 and Tampa 7/29 so I'll have a Special Bash issue then and before that a WWF report from Daytona Beach 7/20. Until the 24th of June.

See ya,

Ron